Message Text

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ACTION NEA-06

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R 180753Z MAY 74
FM AMCONSUL KARACHI
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8114
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

UNCLAS KARACHI 1129

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BMEP, PK

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT TRADE OPPORTUNITY: CONSTRUCTION

OF OIL TANKER BERTH AT KARACHI PORT

REF: KARACHI 2042, 9/26/73

- 1. REFTEL, A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT TENDER TRADE OPPORTUNITY, PROVIDED INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR AMERICAN CONTRACTING FIRMS TO PREQUALIFY AS BIDDERS FOR PROPOSED 75,000 TON OIL TANKER BERTH AT KARACHI PORT. THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF REQUIRED PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS WAS NOVEMBER 26, 1973.
- 2. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH KARACHI PORT TRUST OFFICIALS, CONGENOFF WAS INFORMED THAT TO DATE NO REPEAT NO AMERICAN FIRMS HAVE SUBMITTED PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS. WE WERE INFORMED DEADLINE FOR PREQUALIFICATION HAS NOW BEEN EXTENDED TO JUNE 30, 1974. PREQUALIFICATION PROCEDURE AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT CONTAINED IN REFTEL.
- 3. VALUE THIS MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT ESTIMATED AT APPROXIMATELY DOLS 30 MILLION INCLUDING DOLS 16 MILLION IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE COSTS WHICH ARE BEING FINANCED BY IDA CREDIT. CALLS FOR TENDER ARE EXPECTED IN EARLY JULY, 1974 AND CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN THIS YEAR.

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4. PORT EXPANSION PLANS FOR PERIOD 1976 - 1980 CALL FOR

ADDITIONAL 8 BERTHS AND COMPLETE SUPPORTING FACILITIES TO HANDLE 50,000 TON DRY CARGO CARRIERS. COST THESE BERTHS ESTIMATED AT DOLS 70 MILLION INCLUDING DOLS 35 MILLION IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE. A PRELIMINARY COMMITMENT TO COVER THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE PORTION HAS BEN GIVEN BY IDA.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT FIRMS INVOLVED IN WORK ON OIL TANKER BERTH WILL HAVE BETTER CHANCE OF OBTAINING WORK ON FUTURE PROJECTS IN PERIOD 1976 - 80 WHICH HAVE MUCH HIGHER VALUE. HENCE AMERICAN FIRMS SHOULD BE NOTIFIED THAT POTENTIAL THIS PROJECT IN EXCESS OF DOLS 100 MILLION. BRYANT

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